

Keeping Good Jobs in Kent

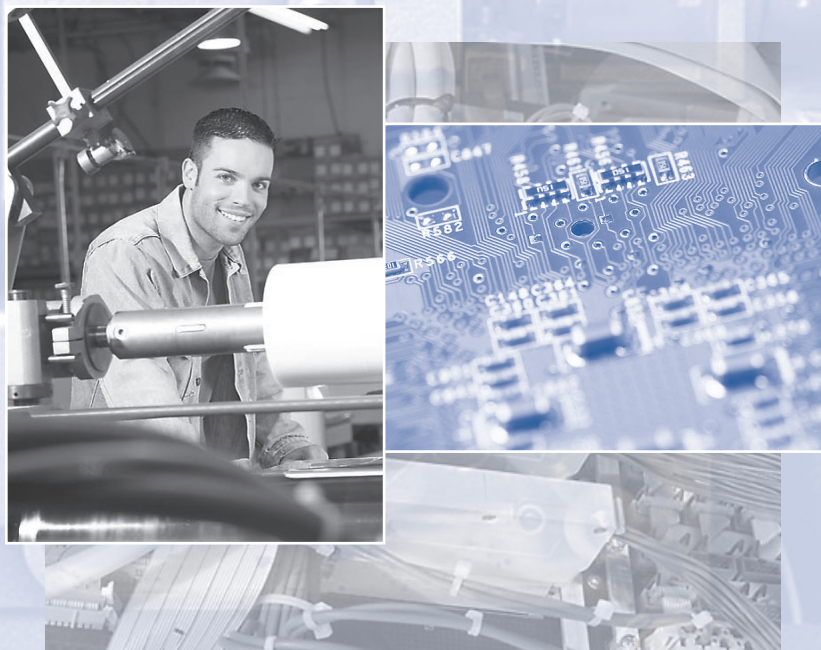
Born and raised in South King County, I've seen our community grow and change. Jobs at Boeing provided a high quality of life for many families in our area. Unfortunately, we are losing many manufacturing jobs in part due to global competition. I want to keep good paying jobs with benefits here in our community.

A successful economic future depends on the actions we take today. Now is the time to make investments in our education system to produce skilled workers, use new technologies and capitalize on the great research being done locally.

This is why I helped secured \$215,000 towards building a Kent Center for Advanced Manufacturing. Based in Kent, the Center will serve as a resource for the region by supporting:

- Job retention for manufacturers located in the Puget Sound;
- New spin-off jobs in both manufacturing and supplier industries;
- A more level playing field for manufacturers to compete globally; and
- Creation of new products that can be successfully marketed around the world.

The Center for Advanced Manufacturing can help make South King County an "innovation corridor" of manufacturing. Development of the center is a top priority of the Kent Chamber of Commerce because it will help keep and create good local manufacturing jobs right here at home.



**Representative
Dave Upthegrove**
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State Representative Dave Upthegrove 33rd Legislative District

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Dear Friends:

I'm honored to represent you in the State House of Representatives. Since taking office three years ago, I've tried to take a balanced approach that puts our community's needs ahead of partisan politics. I'm pleased to report that the legislative session in Olympia concluded on time, and that it was a successful session for South King County.

I do my best to focus on the needs of our local community, and so inside this legislative update you will find information on some of the local results from this past legislative session.

As we look to the future, my priority remains the same: improve our local economy. To do this, we need to:

- Invest in education (K-12 and higher education)
- Make health care more affordable for individuals, families, seniors and businesses
- Keep and create good paying jobs with benefits in the Kent Valley.

Education, health care, and jobs can provide real solutions to the economic challenges facing average folks.

I also need to hear from you. I value your input and hope you'll take the time to share your thoughts. If you ever have any questions, comments or concerns, please feel free to give me a call or send me a letter or email.

Sincerely,

Dave Upthegrove

Dave Upthegrove

Representative Dave Upthegrove



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Expanding Job Opportunities in Our Own Backyard

Creating and expanding good paying jobs in South King County is critical to strengthening our economy.

To connect people with local job opportunities, I fought to restore state funding for a local job placement program called Port Jobs.

Port Jobs is a non-profit located at the airport that connects people looking for jobs with airport-related companies that are hiring. The program keeps up-to-the minute job listings of positions available at the airport and related businesses—like the airlines, hotels, rental car

companies. And if you have limited education, don't have a car, or don't speak English well, Port Jobs can help you work through those kinds of barriers.

Local businesses love the program because it helps them get the employees they need.

And it works.

In the past few years, the Port Jobs program has helped place 2,154 people from South King County into good jobs.



33rd District • Legislative Update



Making Education a Priority

Parents, teachers, business leaders and students have all made it clear that education funding is their top priority. I am pleased to report that this year's budgets make unprecedented, long-term investments in education—including full funding of voter-approved initiatives to reduce class size and increase teacher pay.

The budget also expands access to higher education and job training by increasing enrollments at our community colleges and universities, including room for 252 additional students at Highline and Green River Community Colleges.

As a member of the House Capital Budget Committee, which oversees the state's construction budget, I am proud that the 2005-07 Capital Budget represents the largest level of funding for K-12 education in the history of the state of Washington. Here at home, this means an additional \$1 million for construction of the new Mill Creek Middle School (formerly Kent Jr. High).



Representative Dave Upthegrove

Supporting the Kent Pediatric Interim Care Center

Thousands of babies every year are born drug-affected and require personalized medical care. Since 1990, the Pediatric Interim Care Center—a small brick building in downtown Kent—has cared for these fragile, drug-affected infants to help them get a healthy start to a full and productive life. The clinic provides care at a fraction of the cost of hospital care, saving the state millions of dollars every year.

Once again, however, the Legislature proposed eliminating the dedicated state funding to the clinic. Fortunately, I was once again able to help restore full state funding for the clinic to continue to care for these vulnerable newborns.

In addition, I was pleased to help secure \$617,000 in state construction funding to help construct a new building for the clinic. The facility will help the clinic serve more babies and with some of the most advanced technologies.

